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President U Thein Sein visits Famen Temple

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Sept—President U Thein Sein and party, accompanied by Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua and officials of foreign affairs office of Shanxi Province, visited Famen Temple in Boaji City 90 kilometers from Xian on 19 September.

Finger bone relic of the Buddha is kept at the temple.

On arrival at the temple, the President and party were warmly welcomed by Boaji Mayor Mr Shangguan Jiping and officials, monks and members of Sangha.

The President paid respect to the members of Sangha and donated the Jade Buddha Image, mosaic of Uppatasanti Pagoda and offertories. The monks then said prayers for them.

The President and



President U Thein Sein donates the Jade Buddha Image to the Famen Temple monk.—MNA

party then paid homage to the original shrine where the Buddha finger bone relic was

once kept. The President and party then posed for a documentary photo.

The President and party then paid homage to the Buddha finger bone relic.

President U Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to Saudi Arabian King

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Sept—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Majesty Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on the occasion of the National Day of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which falls on 23 September, 2012.—MNA

The temple in Famen village in Boaji of Shaanxi Province was built in AD 68 during Eastern Han Dynasty. It was named the Famen Temple during Tang Dynasty and also known as the temple of the imperial family. Tang Dynasty regarded highly of the temple for more than 200 years and Emperor Li Yuan moved the finger bone relic and thousands of precious stones to underground shrine in AD 874.

After the collapse of wood pagoda in 1569, it was rebuilt with 47 meters high 13-storey structure in 1579. The finger bone relic of the

Buddha was recovered in 1987 and the temple was reconstructed with the current architecture. With the order of Chinese State Council in 2006, it was listed as sixth heritage of the State. The temple was expanded to 148 meters height in 2009.

The Buddha finger bone relic has been conveyed to Thailand, Chinese Taipei and Hong Kong for public obeisance.

The President and party then proceeded to Yanglin High Tech Agriculture Sector Demonstration District 20 kilometers away.

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Production Cooperative Society formed in Myaungmya

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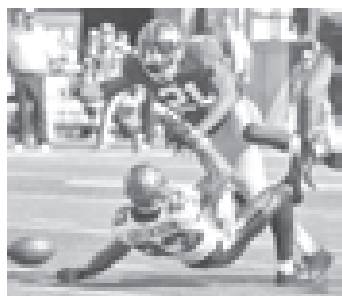
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Chile, Mexico vow to boost social, economic ties

Sahara Force India duo in top 10 in Singapore GP practice



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PAGE 14

New York Giants Kenny Phillips (21) knocks down Tampa Bay Buccaneers wide receiver Vincent Jackson (83) as he breaks up a pass attempt in third quarter of NFL in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

Connectivity of Yezin and Yanglin will help Myanmar employ Chinese technologies

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Sept—President U Thein Sein on 19 September visited Yanglin Northwest Agriculture & Forest University of Yanglin High Tech Agriculture Sector Demonstration District where he received a warm welcome by Rector Mr Sun Quxin, the faculty members and students.

Rector of Yezin University of Agriculture Dr Tin Htut and Mr Sun Quxin inked MoU for cooperation between the two universities and exchanged documents in the presence of the President and party.

Mr Sun Quxin extended greetings at ceremony of conferring the university's honorary doctorate degree on President U Thein Sein and conferred the honorary doctoral degree on the President.

The President said in his acceptance speech that he thanked the university for conferring the honorary doctorate degree on him for his poverty eradication efforts through rural development tasks undertaking in Myanmar and he was heartened by it. He said pragmatic measures are being taken for poverty eradication and rural development as a national plan. The government is striving for the modernization of agricultural sector since Myanmar is an agro-based country, the President said.

The President also said he would feel more complete if he could share that honour and success with the people of Myanmar.

The government shall exert every effort to transform the country's agriculture from resource based to knowledge based, he said. He said development and upgrading of knowledge institutions is the government's primary task.

(See page 7)



Rector Mr Sun Quxin of Yanglin Northwest Agriculture & Forest University confers honorary doctorate degree on President U Thein Sein.—MNA

NATIONAL

Complex rehabilitation tasks for restoring normal socio-economic lives of victims in Rakhine State will take time

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Sept—Only with emergence of harmonious society it will be able to get rid of instabilities and bring about equitable development to Rakhine State, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said in his speech at the opening session of Workshop on Rehabilitation, Resettlement, Rule of Law and Sustainable Development in Rakhine State at Myanmar International Convention Centre this morning.

The workshop was jointly organized by Ministry of Border Affairs, UN agencies and Myanmar Development and Resources Institute (MDRI).

He pinned his hope on the workshop for drafting a blueprint for sustainable development in resource-rich Rakhine State, underlining the importance of the mostly sought-after development.

He related the workshop to not only Rakhine State but to the whole nation, calling for seeking solutions for the rule of law and sustainable development of the region in the light of reviews on the current situations based on international experiences and views.

The Vice-President continued to say that 5338 houses from both Communities and other 134 buildings from seven townships including Sittway, Yanbye, Pauktaw, Yathedaung, MraukU and Kyauktaw were burnt down in incident started from Maungdaw of Rakhine State on 8 June. The incident killed 89 people and left 12242 households with 75000 people homeless. Rehabilitation tasks need to be carried out to give new life to the victims. Humanitarian aids were provided by the people, the State and local and foreign organizations.

Complex rehabilitation tasks that would restore normal socio-economic lives of the victims in Rakhine State will take time, he said. Long-term plans need systematic and inclusive measures. The workshop is aimed at drafting comprehensive long-term plans by the government, local organizations, UN agencies, international organizations and INGOs.

Rehabilitation measures for Rakhine State case which was ignited by years-long conflicts that prevail between the two societies could not be the same with those in the aftermath of natural disasters. Regional stability and the rule of law should be ensured while rehabilitation measures are being taken. Mutual trust, sympathy and farsightedness between the two societies are needed for emergence of harmonious society.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham called for seeking ways and action plans to help building a good society after lessons from the unrest and similar issues also happening in some regions the world.

The root cause of the conflict is weakness in development of the local people, he added. Despite its



Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham delivers an address at opening of Workshop on Rehabilitation, Resettlement, Rule of Law and Sustainable Development in Rakhine State.

MNA

richness in natural resources, Rakhine State is under developed with higher percentage of poverty and scarcity of job opportunities caused by less human resource development, the Vice-President said.

He stressed the need for promoting the socio-economy and bringing the development into the state as part of efforts for preventing conflicts between the two cultures.

Only when the socio-economic life of both sides are improved, can the two societies stay together, he added.

The Vice-President called for finding ways for ever ending the racial conflict and building a society in which the people can understand each other.

After the opening ceremony, Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham posed for documentary photo together with Union ministers, deputy ministers, ambassadors, diplomats from UN agencies and viewed the documentary photos on rehabilitation in Rakhine State.

Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Htay urged the participants of the workshop to discuss the issues without political bias and suspicions and to focus the tasks to be carried out for the refugees in accordance with the objective of the workshop with the aim of laying down the tasks that are in conformity with the current situation.

UN Resident Representative Dr Ashok Nigam said security and stable environment is fundamental to development of a region. He called for a focus on livelihood,

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham felicitates Saudi Arabian Crown Prince

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Sept—Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, Crown Prince, Deputy Premier and Minister of Defence of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on the occasion of the National Day of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which falls on 23 September 2012.—MNA

health and nourishment of local people in Rakhine State as the top priority and citizenship as the second priority at the discussion.

Adviser to the President U Ko Ko Hlaing regarding the framework for a resolution, said the point of discussion should be concentrated on how to solve the issue, addressing the seminar as the first step of a journey. He expressed his belief that the discussion would lead to right solution.

Deputy Director-General of Foreign Economic Relations Department Dr Daw Wah Wah Maung called for an emphasis on adoption of short-and long-term plans for sustainable development of Rakhine State, stressing the need for funds to put those plans into practice. She called for a focus on what aid to ask from international organizations, how to link local authorities and focal ministry, and social and economic affairs, environmental conservation, job opportunities and promotion of investment for sustainable development of Rakhine State.

At today's workshop, 17 resource persons—four on rule of law and peace process, five on rescue works, three on temporary regional camps and rehabilitation works, five on national reconciliation and harmonious society read papers and replied to queries of those present. The workshop continues tomorrow.—MNA



UN Resident Representative Dr Ashok Nigam makes a speech.

MNA

Women entrepreneurs win awards

YANGON, 22 Sept—Members of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association Ma Soe Soe Than who took part in the 18th ASEAN Youth Award and the 7th Toyo ASEAN Award in Bangkok of Thailand from 17 to 21 September secured

the 18th ASEAN Youth Award and Ma Khin Phyu Shwe the 7th Toyo ASEAN Award.

They were welcomed back by Secretary of the association Daw Hnin Wai and officials at Yangon International Airport.

Myanma Alin



Overspeed motorcycle hits pedestrian

NYAUNGU, 22 Sept—A motorcycle with three passengers hit a person who crossed the NyaungU-Myingyan Road at 12.30 pm on 18 September.

The motorcycle driven by Po Saw, son of U Tin Nwe of Palinlay Village together with Maung Bo Nyein and an unidentified person on back seat from NyaungU to Myingyan hit Maung Hsint of Upper Nyint Village of NyaungU Township. In the incident, Maung Hsint died on the spot with injury at his

Workshop on developing SMES into heavy industry held

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Sept—Small and medium enterprises in Asian countries account for over 90% of business firms and supplies 75% of job employments, SMEs in Myanmar also represents 96% of business firms and 78% of labor forces, head. Po Zaw and Bo Nyein were injured and they are receiving medical treatment as in-patient at NyaungU People's Hospital.

Letpanchepaw Police Station takes action against the traffic accident.

Myanma Alin

so it plays a crucial role in economic development of Myanmar, said Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin at the Workshop on Industrial Sector Development for Rakhine State held at U Ottama Hall in Sittway here yesterday morning.

The state chief minister continued to say that assisting development for SMES which is the lifeblood of the State economy and developing SMES into heavy industry will ensure future long-term economic

progress of Myanmar. He invited entrepreneurs from SMEs, intellectuals and intelligentsias to take part in the discussion.

Officials reported matters related to industrial development, SMEs development and registration for private industry to the chief minister.

Then State Hluttaw Speaker U Htein Lin, State Planning and Economic Minister U Mya Aung and those attendees participated in the discussion.

MNA

WORLD

Russia's Medvedev offers rare criticism for Putin

Russia

Moscow, 22 Sept—Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev offered rare criticism of President Vladimir Putin's methods of dealing with business leaders on Friday, heightening speculation of a growing rift between Russia's top two rulers.

Medvedev spoke a few days after Putin issued a stinging rebuke of his former protege's government by accusing cabinet ministers of failing to act on his orders and criticizing its fiscal plans.

In a speech at a showcase business forum in the Black Sea city of Sochi, Medvedev referred to an incident in 2008 when Putin, then serving as prime minister, promised to "send a doctor and a prosecutor" to the billionaire owner of steel and coal producer Mechel who had been unable to attend an industry meeting because of illness.

The comments directed toward Igor Zyuzin came to be

known as one of Putin's harshest attacks ever on a powerful business figure and caused the company's stock to plummet.

"I think that in modern Russia, if we talk about business, unequivocal orders are being made in different ways, let's say, in proposals to send a doctor in for a cure," Medvedev said on Friday. "Russian business knows what I mean...I wish we (would) start learning to live in a different way."

In 2010 Putin said he regretted the comments.

In early 2011, when he was still president, Medvedev appeared to publicly rebuke Putin for comparing Western calls for action on Libya with the medieval Crusades. While cautious, Medvedev's words on Friday seemed to be one of his first public barbs at Putin since the two swapped jobs in May and could signal more serious disagreements over policy in the early part of Putin's



Russia's President Vladimir Putin (R) and Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev attend a session of the State Council at the Kremlin in Moscow, on 17 July, 2012.

REUTERS

third term as president.

Faced with constitutional limitations on serving a third straight term as president, Putin steered Medvedev, a lawyer, into the Kremlin in 2008, while Putin himself served four years as prime minister.

At the time, the two said they ruled in "tandem", a reference to Putin's powerful presence in state decision making. After Putin's criticism of cabinet activity

this week, Medvedev coolly listened the following day to ministers propose dipping into dividends paid by state energy firms and reducing the size of the oil revenue fund.

But a host of new laws engineered by Putin has given rise to suspicions that the president is trying to undermine Medvedev's legacy and may soon rid himself of the man once widely seen to be his protege.

Reuters

Crews extinguish fire at Venezuela's El Palito refinery

Venezuela

CARACAS, 22 Sept—Firefighters extinguished a blaze in a fuel storage tank at Venezuela's El Palito refinery, state oil company PDVSA said on Saturday.

The fire was started by a lightning bolt during a storm Wednesday night, but the 146,000 barrel-per-day (bpd) El Palito facility continued operating. Two tanks were initially set alight, but the fire in one was put out within hours.

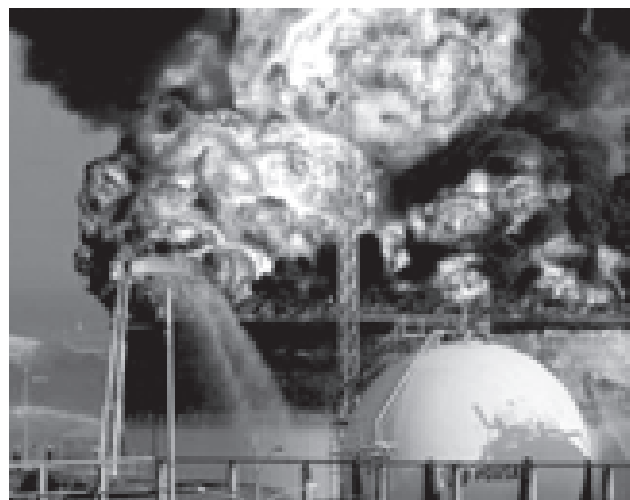
In a statement, PDVSA said the blaze in the second storage tank was completely extinguished late on Friday.

No one was hurt in Wednesday night's lightning strike.

The second refinery accident in a month has increased concerns about state oil company PDVSA's safety record and practices ahead of an 7 October presidential election.

In August, PDVSA halted almost all output at the country's biggest refinery, Amuay, for six days after a gas leak caused an explosion that killed 42 people.

PDVSA has suffered a string of accidents, outages and unplanned stoppages for maintenance across its refinery network in recent years, hurting the OPEC nation's vital fuel exports.—Reuters



A view of the fire at El Palito refinery in Puerto Cabello in the state of Carabobo on 20 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

BASIC group calls for adoption of "Kyoto 2" in Doha

Brazil

BRASILIA, 22 Sept — Ministers from Brazil, India, China and South Africa called for an extension of the Kyoto Protocol, the world's only treaty that forces countries to cut greenhouse gas emissions, which expires at the end of the year.

The emerging economies, who form the BASIC bloc, met in Brazil's capital Brasilia on Thursday and Friday to discuss their common negotiating position for the upcoming climate talks in Doha, Qatar, in November.

They said a new Kyoto commitment period should start on 1 January and that a decision on the treaty's fate should be "a key deliverable for Doha and an essential basis for ambition within the regime." The EU and poorer nations have said they want to extend the treaty, which set binding targets for 37 industrialized countries and the European community, but still remain split over how to do so. A Kyoto resolution, as well as advancing talks on how to agree in 2015 a deal to force all nations to cut emissions starting in 2020, will be major priorities at the Qatar talks. "The idea is that the results from the Durban conference, which were carefully balanced, should be fully implemented," said Brazil's Foreign Relations Minister Antonio Patriota.

At last year's UN climate talks in Durban, South Africa, the EU-led efforts to get a tentative deal that would get all emitters, including the BASIC countries, to set emissions reduction targets.



Brazil's Foreign Minister Antonio Patriota (back C) speaks during a news conference after the II Ministerial coordination between Brazil, South Africa, India and China (BASIC) on the ongoing negotiations under the Convention United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), at the Itamaraty Planalto in Brasilia on 21 Sep, 2012.—REUTERS

While the BASIC group recognized that all countries "should participate in an enhanced global effort to be implemented after 2020" it stressed that its countries should not take on the same level of commitment as industrialized countries. The BASIC countries said the new agreement should "respect the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities," referring to their view that rich countries should take on more of a burden to reduce emissions because of their historical contribution to global warming.—Reuters

US, Pakistan pledge to cooperate on Afghanistan

US

WASHINGTON, 22 Sept —The Foreign ministers of the united States and Pakistan on Friday pledged to work together to confront challenges facing Afghanistan.

"We face a common threat from a common enemy, and we must confront terrorism and extremism together," US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton told reporters prior to her meeting with Pakistani Foreign Minister Hina Rabbani Khar at the State Department. "Earlier this month, I designated the Haqqani Network as a foreign terrorist organization so we could make full use of every available legal authority to end their deadly attacks," she said.

Washington looks to Pakistan for help as it is seeking a solution to the decade-old war in Afghanistan and has been pressing the South Asian nation to flush out the Haqqani Network, a Taliban-affiliated group that was accused of launching deadly attacks on American and NATO-led forces in Afghanistan, and other militants on its soil. However, relations between the two countries hit an all-time low following a string of events, including the killing of al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden in Pakistan in clandestine US raids in May last year. And the killing of 24 Pakistani soldiers in a cross-border NATO air strike in November 2011 prompted Pakistan to close all supply routes into Afghanistan. The ban was lifted only in early July.—Xinhua



US Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney addresses a campaign rally in Fairfax, Virginia, the United States, on 13 Sept 2012.—XINHUA

US presidential candidate Romney releases tax returns

US

WASHINGTON, 22 Sept—US Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney paid 1.94 million dollars in taxes in 2011, his campaign announced on Friday as an attempt to dispel speculations amid the hot campaign issue.

Romney and his wife Ann reported last year's income of 13.7 million dollars, most of which was from investment, and they paid 1.94 million dollars in federal taxes, said the Romney campaign. The couple's effective tax rate is 14.1 percent, slightly up from the 13.9 percent of 2010.

Brad Walt, the trustee of the couple's blind trust, also noted that Romney paid an average effective federal tax rate of 20.2 percent for the 20 years prior 2010.

The Obama campaign has been pushing multi-

millionaire Romney to release more of his prior tax returns on the campaign trail. In response, the Romney campaign vowed earlier that Romney would file his tax returns before the 2012 election. By then, the campaign estimated that Romney earned about 21 million dollars last year with the tax liability at 3.2 million dollars. In April, the White House released tax returns of President Barack Obama and the first lady Michelle, which reported an adjusted gross income of 789,674 dollars for last year and paid 162,074 dollars in taxes. Obama's effective federal income tax rate is 20.5 percent. Obama, who has released his tax information for 12 years, also urged the challenger Romney to do the same.—Xinhua

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Apple's iPhone 5 uses chips from Qualcomm, Avago, Skyworks

Tech

MELBOURNE, 22 Sept—Apple's iPhone 5 uses chips from Qualcomm Inc, Avago Technologies Ltd and Skyworks Solutions Inc, according to repair firm iFixit, which pried one open.

The latest iPhone, which first went on sale in Australia on Friday morning, has a larger, 4-inch screen and is slimmer and far lighter than previous models.

Apple Inc booked over two million online pre-orders for the device in the first 24 hours, underpinning investors' expectations the new device will maintain the Cupertino, California company's meteoric growth.

Other companies supplying parts for the new phone include DRAM and flash memory chipmaker SK Hynix and radio-frequency chipmaker Triquint



Handout image released by iFixit.com shows a new iPhone 5 being opened using a screwdriver in Melbourne, Australia on 21 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

Semiconductor Inc, according to iFixit, which stripped down one of the new devices in Melbourne.

The device included an audio chip made by Cirrus Logic Inc. Speculation has swirled that Cirrus technology has replaced that of rival Audience Inc.

It also had a gyroscope, used to track the phone's orientation, made by STMicroelectronics as well as controller chips from PMC-Sierra Inc and Broadcom Corp. News that a supplier has been chosen—or rejected—for one of Apple's products can sometimes cause drastic

swings in stock prices.

Earlier this month, shares in Audience plummeted 63 percent after it said Apple would no longer use its noise filtering technology. Shares in Cirrus spiked at the end of July after it predicted quarterly revenue would jump 70 percent. Apple doesn't disclose which companies make the components that go into its smartphones.

iFixit co-founder Luke Soules spent the night lined up at a local store to buy one of the first iPhone 5s.

Fueled by Red Bull energy drinks to keep himself going, Soules rushed the phone to a nearby Mac repair store fitted out with tools, lights and a camera to begin dissecting the iPhone, a process that can take hours.

Reuters

Swiss railway weighs challenge to Apple over trademark clock

Tech

ZURICH, 22 Sept—Swiss railway operator SBB and a Swiss watchmaker are considering challenging Apple over the striking similarity between the country's trademark station clocks and the clock on a new operating system for the iPad.

"We now have to agree on the legal framework between SBB and Apple," SBB spokesman Reto Kormann said, adding that Swiss railways still held the trademark for the emblematic clock designed by Zurich-born engineer Hans Hilfiker in 1944.

"SBB isn't hurt, but proud that his icon of watch design is being used by a globally active and successful business."

Mondaine Group, the company that has held the license since 1986 to make clocks and wristwatches for consumers based on the 20th-century design classic, said it would also challenge Apple.

"The app is pretty much identical to our Mondaine watch," Andre Bernheim, the company's co-owner, told Reuters. "Three companies together—Apple, SBB and Mondaine—can together achieve something positive. We'll see how this all ends up."

An Apple spokesman was not immediately available to comment.



A couple stands in front of a station clock as they check the departure times of trains at the central railway station in Zurich on 21 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

The minimalist clock, which is emblematic of Switzerland's tradition of punctuality, was designed for the national rail service to help travelers to check the time at a distance as they hurried to catch their trains. In 1953 Hilfiker added a red second hand, which pauses briefly at the top of each minute "to enable trains to depart punctually", as he put it.

The second hand with a circle at its end is based on the device a station manager on the platform would wave for a train's departure, and SBB holds the rights to the design.

"Yet again we see that something that looks simple isn't simple," Bernheim.

The redesigned clock app is a new feature on Apple's iPad computer with the iOS 6 mobile operating system.

It uses black dashes for numbers and a red second hand with a circle at the end, just like the Swiss railway clock, a Reuters employee visiting an Apple store observed.

Reuters

Amazon to launch Kindle in Japan next month: Nikkei

Science

TOKYO, 22 Sept—Amazon.com Inc is expected to release the Kindle e-book reader in Japan early October, the Nikkei reported.

The world's largest Internet retailer had been planning for a late-September release, but had to change its plans due to snags in the supply system, the daily said, quoting unnamed publishing industry executives.

Amazon declined to comment when contacted on Friday.

Amazon is hurrying to secure Japanese content in time for the year-end sales season, the paper said.

The company is asking publishers to change the data formats for some content and could postpone the release further if it does not consider them sufficiently prepared, the Nikkei said. Shares of Amazon were down 1 percent at \$258.33 on the Nasdaq on Friday.—Reuters

Games for smartphones hits at Tokyo Game Show

Tech

TOKYO, 22 Sept—Social networking games installed on smartphones are having the call at the Tokyo Game Show in progress.

The Tokyo Game Show, one of the world's biggest games industry fairs, was opened to industry insiders and media on Thursday, and is accessible to the public from 22-23 Sept, at the Makuhari Messe Convention complex in Chiba, Chiba Prefecture, east of Tokyo.

The displays by leading social game company Gree Inc and industry giant Sony Computer Entertainment Inc are taking the central stage of the event, drawing a large crowd trying at some of the latest games.

Other relatively unknown social game firms such as Bushiroad and Gloops, are also boasting a larger display space than the past.

Of more than 1,000 software items on show, 407 games, or about 40 percent, are played on smartphones, marking a big boost from about 20 percent last year.

Industry professionals note that the market of games sold through discs and other media has been on a downward trend.—Xinhua



People walk beside a canyon hollowed by strong winds in the Alashan Desert National Geopark of north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, on 21 Sept, 2012. Among China's national geoparks, Alashan is the first to be devoted to a desert environment. The Alashan National Geopark, with a designed area of about 940 square kilometers, is divided into three parks (Badanjilin, Tenggeli, and Juyanhai) and 11 scenic zones. Scattered with large sand dunes, and 144 lakes including freshwater lakes and salt lakes, the geopark offers a venue for scientific research as well as opportunities for the development of local tourism.—XINHUA

Oracle targets raised on cloud push, new products

Science

SAN FRANCISCO, 22 Sept—Several brokerages raised their stock price targets for Oracle Corp, saying the company is set to see higher growth from its cloud computing services and newer database software products, offsetting declines in hardware sales.

The world's No 3 software maker has been struggling to turn around its Sun computer division amid tight technology budgets and on Thursday said hardware sales dropped 24 percent from a year ago. "We expect (Oracle's) business to remain steady with the upcoming release of its new flagship database product, continued momentum around its cloud business and accelerating Exa-systems business,"

ThinkEquity analyst Yun Kim said.

Chief Executive Larry Ellison said on an earnings conference call that the company will announce an upgraded version of its 12c database software product on 30 September.

The company forecast that new software sales and subscription revenue would range from 5 percent to 15 percent this quarter.

Oracle is also gaining from its recent acquisitions of cloud-based service providers Taleo and RightNow, and analysts said revenue from these businesses powered the company's cloud revenue to \$222 million in the first quarter.

Oracle's struggling hardware business could,

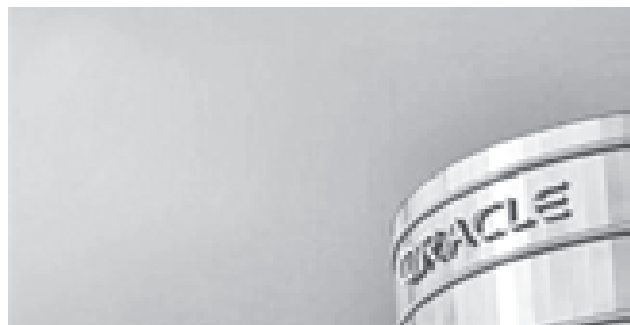
however, see improvement in the first half of next year, driven by the growth in engineered systems, notably Exadata, JP Morgan Securities analyst John DiFucci said.

Oracle's Exadata segment includes products that combine its hardware and software components to increase computing speed

and reduce storage requirements. The company expects its engineered systems segment to contribute over \$1 billion this year.

Shares of the company rose 2 percent to \$32.94 in early trading on the Nasdaq on Friday.

Reuters



The company logo is shown at the headquarters of Oracle Corporation in Redwood City, California on 2 February, 2010.—REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

GM recalls nearly 474,000 cars over gear shift problem

Business

CHICAGO, 22 Sept—General Motors Co is recalling 473,841 Chevrolet, Pontiac and Saturn sedans globally to fix a condition that could lead the cars to roll when the drivers think they are in park, the No 1 US automaker said on Friday.

GM said it was aware of four crashes that resulted from the problem, but no injuries.

The company said the recall affected Chevy Malibu, Pontiac G6 and Saturn Aura cars from model years 2007 through 2010 and

equipped with four-speed automatic transmissions. GM will repair the condition in which the transmission gear position may not match the gear on the shifter.

The recall affects 426,240 in the United States, 40,029 in Canada and 7,572 in other markets.

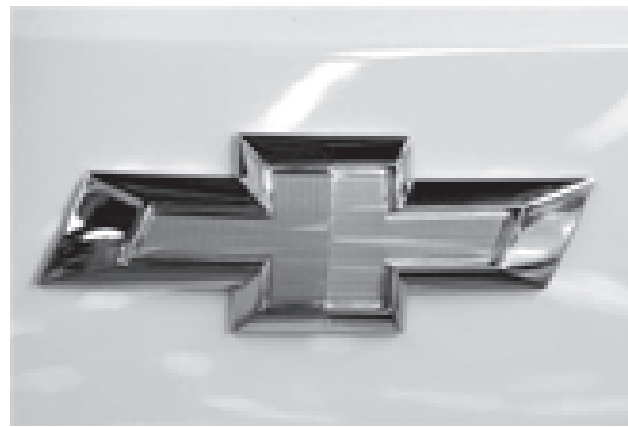
Dealers will add a reinforcement to the shift cable end fitting to prevent that part from fracturing, GM said. Owners will be notified by letter to schedule the free repairs at dealers, and those

who have had the work done already will be eligible for reimbursement.

The company also said it was recalling 6,475 Chevy Sonic subcompact cars globally because they might not alert the driver to a faulty turn-signal bulb.

Dealers will reprogram an incorrectly calibrated module for the cars built between 29 May and 29 August at GM's Orion, Michigan, plant.

The recall affects 4,716 cars in the United States and



The Chevrolet car logo is seen on a car at the General Motors plant in Asaka on 30 August, 2012.—REUTERS

1,759 in other markets.

GM said it was unaware of any crashes or injuries stemming from the problem.

Owners will be notified of the Sonic recall by letter beginning 3 October.

Reuters

Astex Pharma ends development of lung cancer drug

Health

NEW YORK, 22 Sept—Cancer drugmaker Astex Pharmaceuticals Inc said it would discontinue the development of its experimental small-cell lung cancer drug, Amuvatinib, as the drug failed to achieve a high enough response rate in patients in a mid-stage study.

Shares of the company were down about 10 percent at \$3.32 in premarket trade. They closed at \$3.32 on Thursday on the Nasdaq. The main goal of the trial, known as ESCAPE, was to show that the drug had a response rate of not less than 10 percent in treating lung cancer patients. Amuvatinib fell short with a 9.5 percent response rate.

No new safety issues were identified in the trial, the company said in a statement. Amuvatinib is intended to target cancer cells inhibiting DNA repair, which is a survival pathway in many human cancers. Astex, which has partnerships with Novartis and Johnson & Johnson to develop its drugs, said it would now consider licensing the compound to any partners interested in its development.—Reuters

Adidas slashes Reebok 2015 sales target after India fiasco

Business

behind Nike (NKE N), bought Reebok in August 2005 for \$3.8 billion. It enjoyed initial success with a range of toning shoes, but has since struggled to find its feet.

Sales at Reebok slumped 26 percent in the second quarter and annual revenue is expected to fall from 2011's 1.96 billion euros. Its performance contrasts sharply with the rest of the Adidas group, which expects overall sales to rise nearly 10 percent in 2012.

Adidas Chief Executive Herbert Hainer has said that Reebok needs to come up

with new products and will focus on fitness categories such as keep-fit trend Crossfit, running, gym, yoga and dance.

The company kept an overall target to increase group sales to 17 billion euros by 2015, with faster than expected growth at its Adidas brand and golf business offsetting the weakness at Reebok.

Sales for the Adidas brand are now expected to reach 12.8 billion euros in 2015, up 5 percent from the previous target of 12.2 billion euros. Adidas shares, which

have gained 30 percent this year as it takes market share from rivals, touched a record high of 65.76 euros on Wednesday.

The company announced in April that it had uncovered commercial irregularities at Reebok India and replaced management there. It said the fraud and a subsequent restructuring of Indian operations would cost Adidas almost 200 million euros. The unit's two former managers were arrested on Thursday in India on suspicion of fraud.

Reuters



A saleswoman holds up athletic shoes by Reebok and Adidas in Taipei on 4 August, 2005.—REUTERS

FRANKFURT, 22 Sept—Adidas (ADSGn DE) slashed its 2015 sales target for its struggling Reebok brand to 2 billion euros from 3 billion euros after losing a major

American football contract and fraud was discovered at its Indian operation.

The German company, the world's second-largest sports apparel company

WTO cuts 2012 global trade growth forecast to 2.5 pct

Business

SINGAPORE, 22 Sept—World trade will grow by a mere 2.5 percent this year, dragged down by Europe to less than half of the previous 20-year average, the World Trade Organization (WTO) said on Friday.

The WTO cut its estimate from a 2012 growth forecast of 3.7 percent it made in April and also lowered its forecast for 2013 to 4.5 percent growth from 5.6 percent.

"I see the risk more on the downside than the upside," WTO Director General Pascal Lamy said at a news conference in Singapore. "What could be surprising is that you have a volume of trade that is lower than world (economic) growth."

The WTO figures are based on world economic growth of 2.1 percent in 2012 and 2.4 percent 2013, which it said was a consensus estimate of economic forecasts.

"The main reason for the growth slowdown is of course Europe," said Lamy, who will step down next year as head

of the 157-member group that has so far failed to agree on major reforms of global trade rules.

"We also know US growth is lower than expected, (and) Japan is not in great shape."

The WTO now expects 1.5 percent growth in exports from developed economies this year, instead of the previous forecast of 2 percent.

Those from developing countries are seen posting 3.5 percent growth, down from 5.6 percent previously.

It sees developed nations

more than doubling their export growth to 3.3 percent next year and developing countries exporting 5.7 percent more.

The WTO said in a statement that its 2013 estimates assumed current policy measures would be enough to avoid a breakup of the euro and that agreement would be reached to stabilise public finances in the United States and avoid automatic spending cuts and tax increases early next year.

Reuters



Mobile cranes prepare to stack containers at Thar Dry Port in Sanand in Gujarat on 2 July, 2012.—REUTERS



A Coca-Cola bottle is seen with other beverages in New York in this 23 June, 2008 file photograph.

As Americans debate what is most to blame for the nation's obesity epidemic, researchers say they have the strongest evidence yet that sugary drinks play a leading role and that eliminating them would, more than any other single step, make a huge difference.

REUTERS

US drug company recalls two lots of hydrocodone pain drug

Health

NEW YORK, 22 Sept—Generic drugmaker Watson Pharmaceuticals Inc said it has recalled two lots of its hydrocodone and acetaminophen combination pain drug due to the possibility that the pills may contain higher than intended doses of the medicines.

The voluntary, nationwide recall announced on Friday was prompted by a patient complaint that tablets were thicker and darker than usual.

The affected pills were supposed to contain 10 milligrams of hydrocodone, a narcotic painkiller, and 500 mg of acetaminophen, the active ingredient in common pain products such as Tylenol.

Ingestion of excessive amounts of acetaminophen can cause liver damage, especially in patients on other acetaminophen medications, those with existing liver problems or in people who consume more than three alcoholic beverages a day.

Excessive amounts of hydrocodone can cause an increase in severity of side effects, such as sedation and breathing problems.

Watson said it has received no reports of injuries related to the product being recalled.

Reuters

WORLD

Rising deficit puts Britain at risk of debt

UK

goal miss

LONDON, 22 Sept—Britain's budget deficit widened to the biggest on record for any August, data showed on Friday, a day after the central bank chief said missing its debt goal was acceptable for the government.

Public sector net borrowing excluding financial sector interventions rose to 14.410 billion pounds from 14.365 billion in August 2011 as Britain's recession hit company tax receipts and drove up benefit payments.

That was the highest for any August since records began in January 1993, although slightly below economists' forecast in a *Reuters* poll for 15.0 billion pounds.

Chancellor George Osborne, who has made reducing the deficit a central plank of his policies, may soon face a tough choice between cutting spending further or abandoning his goal of ensuring that the debt-to-GDP ratio starts falling by 2015.

The lack of growth and the rising debt pile have increased the tension within the coalition of Conservatives and Lib Dems, with some Conservatives urging more cuts to welfare.

The Labour opposition, meanwhile, is calling for a loosening of the austerity plan of tax hikes and spending cuts, aimed at erasing the structural budget deficit within five years



Pedestrians pass The Bank of England in the City of London on 14 Feb, 2012.—REUTERS

and reducing the debt-to-GDP ratio.

Late on Thursday, Bank of England Governor Mervyn King—a firm supporter of the government's efforts to cut the budget gap—said missing the 2015 debt goal would be acceptable if the reason was weakness in the economy.

"We heard from Mervyn King last night they are going to bust the debt target," BNP economist David Tinsley said. "But that was always a stupid target anyway.—*Reuters*

Ukraine's Tymoshenko says October vote

Ukraine

"already rigged"



Former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko speaks during a meeting with regional deputies and journalists in Rivne, 330km (205 miles) west from the capital Kiev, on 28 April, 2010. REUTERS

KIEV, 22 Sept—Yulia Tymoshenko, the jailed opponent of Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich, said on Friday a parliamentary election in October would be unfair and called for Western

sanctions against the former Soviet republic's leadership.

A Ukrainian court sentenced Tymoshenko to seven years in prison on abuse-of-office charges last October in a case criticised by the West as an example of selective justice, straining Kiev's relations with Brussels and Washington.

Tymoshenko, who has denied any wrongdoing, accused Yanukovich of using the legal system to carry out personal revenge against her.

As a result of the conviction, she cannot run in the 28 October vote in which Yanukovich's Party of the Regions is expected to retain a majority but is closely trailed by a bloc which includes Tymoshenko's

Batkivshchyna (Fatherland) party.

"The elections are already rigged even before they have started. We must immediately, before the elections, find the means to break the grip of the dictatorship before sham elections give it unquestioned control," Tymoshenko said in a statement on Friday.

The 51-year-old politician has been receiving treatment for back trouble in a state-run hospital since May while fighting fresh charges of tax evasion and embezzlement in court.

Shortly after her conviction, the European Union shelved landmark deals on political association and free trade

with Ukraine. Western politicians have also questioned the fairness of the upcoming poll given her jailing.

In her statement, Tymoshenko urged Western powers to act more aggressively against Yanukovich and his allies.

"The world's democracies should stop offering hospitality to the world's dictators, their families, and their cronies and henchmen," she said. "Why should these people be free to travel anywhere they wish, spend whatever they wish on luxury items, when their citizens are imprisoned and impoverished back home?"

Reuters

International News in Brief

14 inmates injured in prison fire in NE Turkey

ANKARA, 22 Sept — 14 inmates were injured in a prison fire which broke out in the northeastern Turkey, local newspaper *Today's Zaman* reported on Friday.

The fire started in the Ardahan B-Type Prison in the province of Ardahan after an inmate set his properties on fire late on Thursday, according to the report.

A total of 13 convicts and a warden were taken to hospital for treatment after the fire which was immediately contained by a firefighter team, said the report. Ardahan Governor Seyfettin Azizoglu was quoted as saying that the fire was started by a convict who was taken to the Ardahan State Hospital with second-degree burns, adding that the injured are reported to be in good condition.—*Xinhua*

Four killed in truck crash in W Thailand

BANGKOK, 22 Sept—Four people were killed when their pickup truck crashed into a 22-wheel trailer truck on Friday morning in western province of Ratchaburi, *Bangkok Post* online reported.

Trailer truck driver Somchai Samruay, 33, told police that the pickup smashed into his vehicle while he was making a u-turn on highway Phetkasem Road.

The four people including the pickup truck driver and three passengers killed in the crash were two men and two women. Three victims were identified as Kanchart Pungwangthong, Akerat Pungwangthong and Uthomporn Pulee.

Police had not yet identified the fourth victim.

Police are investigating.—*Xinhua*

Three killed in US drone strike in NW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 22 Sept — At least three people were killed and several others injured in a US drone strike launched on Saturday morning in Pakistan's northwest tribal area of North Waziristan, reported local media *Ary*.

According to the local media reports, US drones fired two missiles at a vehicle suspected of carrying militants in the Datta Khel area of North Waziristan, a stronghold of militants along the Pak-Afghan border, killing at three people and wounding two others.

The strike came at a time while the Pakistani foreign minister is paying a visit in the United States. Saturday's US drone strike is the 29th of its kind (counted on daily basis) in Pakistan since 2012. So far this year, a total of 213 people have reportedly been killed in such strikes.—*Xinhua*

Turkey to build three nuclear power

Turkey

plants by 2023

ISTANBUL, 22 Sept — Turkey will advance its nuclear programme by building three nuclear power plants by the year of 2023 despite the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster, a Turkish expert said on Friday at the International Nuclear Technology Transfer Congress. Addressing more than 100 Turkish and foreign academicians, politicians and scientists, Suleyman Sensoy, the president of Turkish Asian Centre for Strategic Studies, said that Turkey plans to build three nuclear power plants for the nation's development programme by 2023.

"By 2023, Turkey aims to become one of the top 10 economies in the world," Sensoy said. At present, 80 percent of Turkey's energy

depends on foreign countries, which greatly affects Turkey's independent economy growth. Thus, Turkey aims to develop its own nuclear plants with technology cooperation with other countries, he said.

"Nuclear energy is going to meet 10 percent of Turkey's energy demand by the year of 2023," Sensoy said. Turkey presently has no nuclear power plants. However, in August 2006, the Turkish Government announced its plan to have three nuclear power plants with total capacity of 4,500 MWe (megawatts electrical), operating by 2012-2015.

The programme was delayed due to the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster in 2011 and the government is more

prudent on the nuclear power programme.

Necmi Dayday, a Turkish nuclear physicist and a retired International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards inspector, said at the congress that Turkey would miss its chance if it neglects developing nuclear power.

"The lack of human resource and infrastructure support are the biggest obstacles of Turkey's nuclear strategy," he said.

Necati Yamac, head of Nuclear Project Implementation Department of Turkey's Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, told *Xinhua* that China would be a great strategic partner for Turkey in nuclear plant construction and technology transfer.—*Xinhua*

Lib Dems to defy Cameron on welfare cuts

UK

LONDON, 22 Sept—The Lib Dems would block attempts to raid the welfare budget to bolster the coalition government's fragile austerity plan in the run-up to the 2015 election, Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg said in a newspaper interview.

Clegg's comments threatened another rift in the often fractious coalition led by Conservative Prime Minister David Cameron.

Struggling to revive his party's dire standing in opinion polls and his own poor ratings, Clegg said savings should start with tax rises for the rich rather than welfare cuts for the poor to help fill a "black hole" in the public finances.

The leader of the centre-left junior partner in the coalition said he would oppose



Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron (L) and deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg watch the show in the Olympic Stadium during the closing ceremony of the London 2012 Paralympic Games on 9 Sept, 2012. REUTERS

a proposal for a two-year freeze on all state benefit payments, a stance designed to appeal to his party's grassroots.

Britain is stuck in a recession that has undermined the government's target of erasing the structural budget deficit by 2017 and left ministers looking

to make further cuts.

"We are not going to do an across-the-board, two-year freeze of all benefits during this parliament," Clegg said in an interview in Saturday's *Independent* newspaper before his party's annual conference this weekend.

Reuters

NATIONAL



President U Thein Sein pays homage to the original shrine of Famen Temple where the Buddha finger bone relic was once kept.

MNA



President U Thein Sein visits Famen Temple

(from page 1)

Vice-Chairman of China-Myanmar Friendship Association Mr Geng Zhiyuan hosted lunch to the President and party at International Convention Center.

On arrival Shenzhen, the President and party were welcomed by Deputy Mayor Mr Tang Jie of Shenzhen, Myanmar Consul-General U Wai Lwin Than of Hong Kong and officials at the airport.

They then proceeded to Futian Shangri-La Hotel in Shenzhen where they were staying.

MNA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein views research plantations in Yanglin Northwest Agriculture and Forest University.

MNA

Connectivity of Yezin ...

(from page 1)

He gave top priorities to stipulation of right policies, programmes and planning. The President said the government has laid down key policy measures for rural poverty eradication and agricultural development.

He called for promotion of "Lab-to-farm" approach. Since now is knowledge and technology age, it is the duty of the government to ensure free flow of knowledge and information among farmers as well as general public to carry out farmer centered and welfare oriented people centered development.

The cooperation between Yezin Agricultural University and Yanglin Northwest Agriculture and Forest University in advanced Agricultural Science's will also bring today's technology of China to Myanmar tomorrow and fulfill the expectations of the farmers of Myanmar, he said. The President predicted that the academic collaboration between the two universities will be further consolidated in the future.

The President, together with the rector of Yanglin University and ambassadors of two countries, planted a

tree to mark his visit in front of the entomological museum of the university.

The President and party viewed round high tech labs and Soilless Cultivation Labs where crops and flowery plants are grown on a non-soil nutrient solution.

Yanglin Northwest Agriculture & Forest University established since 1997 is the only agricultural university in China. It has 18 colleges and six departments. The university has admitted 40,000 students this academic year. As of the coming year, the university will grant scholarships to five outstanding students from Myanmar.—MNA



President U Thein Sein back from China after attending 9th China-ASEAN Expo



NAY PYI TAW, 22 Sept— President U Thein Sein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar arrived back here from the People's Republic of China by special flight of Myanmar Airways International at 11.40 am after attending 9th China-ASEAN Expo held in Nanning.

A Myanmar delegation led by President U Thein Sein was welcomed back at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief of

Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win, Union Ministers at the President Office U Thein Nyunt, U Soe Maung and U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu, Union Minister for Labour U Maung Myint, Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Zeyar Aung, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Aye, Deputy

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Zin Yaw, departmental heads and Charge d'Affaires Mr Lu Zhi of Chinese Embassy.

Together with President U Thein Sein, delegation members Union Ministers U Soe Thein, Thura U Myint Maung, U Nyan Tun Aung, U Win Shein and Dr Kan Zaw, Lt-Gen Aung Than Htut from Commander-in-Chief (Army)'s office, Deputy Ministers Dr Win Myint, Thura U Thaug Lwin and departmental heads arrived back with the same flight.

MNA

President U Thein Sein, who came back after attending the 9th China-ASEAN Expo, being welcomed back by Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun and officials concerned at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.

MNA

Union Foreign Minister felicitates Saudi Arabian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Sept— On the occasion of the National Day of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which falls on 23 September 2012, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Royal Highness Prince Saud Al-Faisal Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 23 September, 2012

Hygienic environment, key to control of DHF

Cleanliness plays a very important part in keeping healthy. A person should always keep himself clean and see what his living quarters are also kept clean. He should try and keep away flies and mosquitoes from his house. These insects will not stay if the house is always kept clean and no rubbish is left lying about.

In the post-monsoon season, there is a high incidence of dengue hemorrhagic fever which is caused by a virus carried by aedes aegypti mosquitoes as the infectious tropical disease is usually common in the transitional period. The mosquitoes used to hide in dark places in daytime and grow in wells, lakes, water tanks, water pots and drains.

As DHF has become a global problem and is endemic in more than 110 countries including Myanmar, special attention should be paid to the spread of aedes aegypti mosquitoes as well as personal hygiene that could fend off the risk of several complications. The clear inference is that the places where mosquitoes could stay and its larvae spread should be completely wiped out.

As there is no vaccine for DHF, prevention is to be sought by reducing the habitat and the number of mosquitoes and limiting exposure to bites of the insects.

When a person becomes ill he cannot work and he causes a lot of troubles to his family. Thus, it is our duties to look after our health. With good health we can work hard and earn a lot of money but money cannot buy good health. Digging deeper, we should take all necessary measures to prevent diseases that harm our health.



Hla Htut Oo

Youth entrepreneur leaves for China

YANGON, 22 Sept—CEC member Daw Khin Thet Maw of Myanmar Youth Entrepreneurs Association left here by air on 19 September to attend the Chinese and Southeast Asian NGOs Exchange Program to be held in Beijing of China from 19 to 30 September at the invitation of Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament (CPAPD) of China.

She was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Vice-Chairman of the association U Aung Soe Than and Joint Secretary Daw Thin Thin Hset.—Myanma Alin

NATIONAL



President U Thein Sein views ancient Terracotta statues of Chen Dynasty in Terracotta Museum.

MNA

President U Thein Sein visits ancient Terracotta...

(from page 16)

Next, the President and party arrived at Shangri-La Hotel in Xian.

In the evening, they visited the Terracotta Museum, 30 km east of Xian and north of Quint Hill.

Curator Mr Cao Wei and officials welcomed the President and then conducted him round the Terracotta statues excavated from the tomb of Chen Dynasty in the museum-1.

They then viewed round the ancient chariots displayed at the museum.

Ancient Terracotta statues in Xian were curved by King Chen in BC 247 during the Chen Dynasty (BC 259-210). The tomb was built for 38 years. The tomb was found in 1974. The Terracotta Museum of the Chen Dynasty was opened on 1 October 1979.

Three terracotta statues were unearthed from the place of the museum, and terracotta statues, chariots, iron weapons and the places of control were also found.

The statues are 1.8 metres (six feet) high equipped with bow, arrows, axe and knife on the coat of mail.

UNESCO enlisted the museum in the world heritage list and recognized the 8th World Wonderful site.

About 20,000 observers at home and abroad visit the museum daily. In the tourism

season, about 40,000 visitors view round the museum. The fee for the museum is yuan 150 per head.

At 6.45 pm, the President received Governor of Shaanxi Province Mr Zhao Zhengyong and party at Shangri-La Hotel.

The meeting focused on investment of entrepreneurs from Shaanxi Province to be put in Myanmar, priority to be given in investing in small- and medium-scale

workshops and factories as Myanmar has adequate labour and raw materials, and cooperation in friendly relations and development while implementing further cementing bilateral ties built by China and Myanmar leaders.

After the call, the Governor of Shaanxi Province hosted a dinner in honour of the President and party at Shangri-La Hotel.

MNA



President U Thein Sein and Shaanxi Province Governor Mr Zhao Zhengyong exchange gifts.—MNA

Union Sports Minister calls for more songs to stimulate public interests in XXVII SEA Games

YANGON, 22 Sept—Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan awarded prize winners of songs composing contest designed to stimulate public interests in XXVII SEA Games, at National Indoor Stadium No (1) Thuwunna here this afternoon.

The Union minister in his speech said it would be an honour to composers to have written inspiring pieces of music which would become historic records of XXVII SEA Games. He invited them to compose more songs that can reflect strength and politeness of Myanmar people and creativity of Myanmar musicians.

Next, the chairman and members of song selection and creation committee explained selection process of songs and final creation.

Lin Htet won the first prize by "Colourful Garden of beautiful sports", Salaing the second prize by "You are

invited", Aung Naing San the third prize by "Win the day", Kyaw Lin Tun and Ma Phyo Aung Kyaw consolation prizes by "Golden applause" and "Together Forever Southeast Asia". The prize winners talked about their feelings behind their music.

The Union minister, in his concluding remarks, called songs selection and creation committee for continued suggestions and help for composing of songs capable of inspiring the entire public.—MNA

**The best time to plant a tree
was 20 years ago.
The second best time is now.**

NATIONAL

President U Thein Sein invites...

(from page 16)

The Myanmar President and party visited Huawei Technologies Co Ltd in Shenzhen to observe communication devices of cutting-edge technology.

The Myanmar President held a video conference with 84-year-old Chairperson Daw Zin Khaing of Myanmar-born Chinese People Association based in Beijing.



President U Thein Sein visits Shenzhen Port.—MNA



South East Asia Region President & CEO

Mr Yang Shu of Huawei production of complicated communication devices of

the company and its investment in Myanmar and around the world and technical assistance to Myanmar in organizing XXVII SEA Games.

The President in his speech expressed thanks to Huawei for its proposed assistance to development of Myanmar and also for its telephones which it provided to use in rehabilitation tasks in storm-hit regions in the aftermath of Nargis Cyclone in Myanmar in 2008. He acknowledged the vital role of communication sector in modernizing Myanmar, citing the reform process as

an opportune time to make investment in the country.

Huawei President Mr Ren Zhengfei for his part said that the company would always take part in communication sector of Myanmar, revealing its commitment for communication sector development of Myanmar.

Mr Yang Shu from Huawei Co presented four sets of video conference system which Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Thein accepted. The President and party flew back to Nanning from Shenzhen in the evening.

MNA



President U Thein Sein observes Shenzhen Historical Museum.—MNA

News in Brief

Development of health sector discussed

The region-wise policy and plans drawing meeting for development of health sector in Chin State was held at the office of Chin State government on 17 September morning. They discussed regional health plan for upgrading health sector in the state.

Banking services course wraps up

General Banking Services Course No. 20 concluded at the hall of Myanmar Banks Association on 21 September. Altogether 52 trainees from State-owned banks and private banks attended the 12-week course.

Health knowledge talked

Magway District Women's Affairs Organization and District Maternal and Child Welfare Association held the talks on health knowledge at the hall of Yenangyoung Township General Administration Department on 18 September.

New social security law clarified

A clarification on implementation of new social security law of Social Security Board was held at the office of Bago Region Government on 20 September. The Chairman of the board explained social security rules and future tasks.

Reproductive health knowledge lectured

Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Central) held a talk on reproductive health knowledge at the hall of Irrigation Department in Hinthada Township on 13 September. CEC member Daw Thet Thet Swe of MMCWA and IPPF Project Executive Director Dr Ko Ko Maw explained the implementation of plan.

34-down train derails between Mawlu and Pinwe stations

MAWLU, 22 Sept—The 34-down Myitkyina-Mandalay sleeper train with locomotive DF 2060 left Mawlu Station at 2.50 am on 21 September.

No. 12664 sleeper coach derailed between mile posts 599/13 and 599/10 of Mawlu and Pinwe stations. There was no injury onboard the coach.

Due to derailment, No. 55-up train stopped over at Pinwe Station and No. 57-up train at Nabar Station.

After derailment, workers of Myanma Railways carried out repairing works for smooth transportation. At 10 am on 22 September, the rail transportation turned into normalcy.—*Myanma Alin*



Stimulant tablets, solid opium oil seized

NAWNGKHIO, 22 Sept—Nawngkhio Mobile Team of Lashio Special Anti-Drug Squad together with witnesses discharging drug eradication duties searched Saloon of Ayeya Shweli Transport Service, driven by Tun Myat Thu, from Muse to Mandalay at mile post 78/5 at the entrance to Nawngkhio on 19 September afternoon.

They seized 180 S8 and 1 brand pink stimulant tablets from the underwear of passenger Zaw Min Htaik (a)

District News

Production Cooperative Society formed in Myaungmya



MYAUNGMYA, 22 Sept—The workshop on development of social economic life of rural people, control of animal diseases and development of meat and egg production was held at the hall of Myaungmya District Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department on 18 September morning.

On the occasion, Township Administrator U Ko Ko Latt made a speech. Next, the Township Development Affairs Committee discussed livestock breeding and development affairs. Head of District LBVD Dr Soe Myint Aung explained control of animal diseases and disciplines for livestock breeding.

Chairman of Myaungmya District Livestock Breeding Federation U Myint Aung discussed formation of groups and production cooperative societies.

Next, the production cooperative society was formed with 15 executives.—*Myanma Alin*

Yan Hsin Pi and 115 grams of solid opium oil from his shoes.

SIP Zaw Myo Naing of Lashio Anti-Drug Special Squad opened a file of lawsuit against Zaw Min Htaik (a) Yan Hsin Pi, 37 of Namphakka Ward 4 of Kutkai at Nawngkhio Police Station under Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.—*Myanma Alin*

WORLD



Chilean President Sebastian Pinera (R) and Mexico's President-elect Enrique Pena Nieto attend a joint press conference at La Moneda Palace in Santiago, Chile, on 21 Sept, 2012.—XINHUA

Chile, Mexico vow to boost social, economic ties

SANTIAGO, 22 Sept—Chile and Mexico pledged on Friday to boost social, economic relations and friendship between the two countries. The pledge came as Chilean President Sebastian Pinera met with visiting Mexican President-elect Enrique Pena Nieto.

At the meeting, both Pinera and Nieto hailed the bilateral social, economic ties which they said unite the two countries.

Speaking after the

meeting, the Mexican president-elect said his country would learn from Chile's successful experiences that have improved the well being of the Chilean people.

"Especially, I want to highlight Chile's social policy, which has launched programmes to fight poverty and which has allowed Chile to be one of the region's countries with the lowest poverty rate," said Nieto.

He also said "Fighting poverty is a prior issue for my

government so I have asked President Pinera to share the Chilean experience to enrich the public policy that will be executed during my government to fight the deep poverty conditions that my country still suffers."

Nieto, a presidential candidate from the Institutional Revolutionary Party, won the 1 July election and will take office on 1 Dec. He is now on a six-nation Latin American tour.

Xinhua

Russia delays Bulava missile tests due to software problems

Russia

MOSCOW, 22 Sept—Russia has delayed tests of its new submarine-based Bulava intercontinental ballistic missile due to software troubles, Defence Minister Anatoly Serdyukov said on Friday.

"There are some technical problems with software and an automatic guiding system is being debugged," Serdyukov told reporters.

He said that the next test launch of the Bulava from the Alexander Nevsky nuclear submarine may be conducted near the end of the year. Serdyukov also confirmed delays of repairs on the Yuri Dolgoruky, another Borei-955 class submarine.

"The United Shipbuilding Company cannot complete it (mending) so far," Serdyukov said. "I can't say when they will fix all shortcomings. So far they fail to do that."—Xinhua

Portugal's Prime Minister Pedro Passos Coelho (C) speaks as he is flanked by Finance Minister Vitor Gaspar (L) and Foreign Affairs Minister Paulo Portas during a debate in parliament in Lisbon on 21 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS



Portugal government gives up on levy, to mull alternatives

Portugal

LISBON, 22 Sept—In an about-face, Portugal's government has agreed to negotiate alternative solutions to a social security tax hike that sparked the worst backlash to austerity since last year's EU/IMF bailout, an official statement said on Saturday.

After an eight-hour meeting of the presidential state council that was besieged by protesters and ended long after midnight on Saturday, the council said the negotiations would now proceed between the government, unions and employers.

On Friday, Prime Minister Pedro Passos Coelho promised to "listen to the country" after

huge street protests last weekend and criticism of the plan by unions and business leaders alike. He had previously only agreed to "calibrate" the measure.

The plan to raise the contributions in 2013 to 18 percent from 11 percent has undermined a reluctant acceptance of austerity in Portugal, increasing pressure on the government as it strives to meet the strict conditions of the bailout.

"The council was informed of the government's readiness to study, within the framework of the social bargaining process, alternatives to changes in the social security rate," the statement said after

Chinese firms increasingly value the Netherlands: Dutch deputy PM

Netherlands

AMSTERDAM, 22 Sept—Dutch Deputy Prime Minister Maxime Verhagen on Friday said Chinese companies increasingly appreciate what the Netherlands has to offer.

"As a trade partner and gateway to Europe, Holland is the point of entry with 40 percent of Chinese exports to Europe. The 332 Chinese companies established in the Netherlands provide solid evidence of our global clients," Verhagen told the Sino-Dutch Business Summit, which also marks

the 40th year of diplomatic ties between China and the Netherlands. Verhagen urged the promotion of bilateral foreign investment in areas of fast-growing, creative and high-tech industries.

According to the latest statistics, bilateral economic trade reached a new high of 68.15 billion US dollars, while year-on-year growth hit 21.3 percent. For nine consecutive years, the Netherlands has been China's second-biggest trade partner in the EU. Huiman Yi, senior executive vice

president of ICBC — one of the forum's organizers — pointed out the importance of facilitating trade and investment with cross-border renminbi trade settlement in order to achieve in-depth collaboration. "In recent years, cross-border Renminbi trade settlement continues to accelerate, it is also on top of PRC government's agenda. This entails that Chinese businesses abroad have also increased in a considerable manner, reaching global heights," Yi said.—Xinhua

US, Vietnam discuss Agent Orange/Dioxin issue

Vietnam

HANOI, 22 Sept—The members of the US-Vietnam Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) will make the best possible effort to deal with consequences of Agent Orange/Dioxin in the country, said a senior official on Friday.

Dr Le Ke Son, director general of the Office of National Steering Committee on overcoming consequences of AO/Dioxin in Vietnam (Office 33) under Vietnam's Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE), made the remark at the press briefing to conclude the Seventh Annual Meeting of the US-Vietnam JAC on Agent Orange/Dioxin (AO/Dioxin) in Vietnam's capital Hanoi which was held on 20-21 Sept. During the two-day meeting, participants emphasized the need of cooperation between the governments of the two countries in order to ensure the good effect of the environmental cleanup project in Vietnam's central Da Nang city, one of the hot spots of dioxin contamination in Vietnam, Son said.

Jenifer Orme-Zavaleta, director of the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s National Exposure Research Laboratory, co-chair of the 7th JAC meeting, said that with the US-Vietnam partnership, the works of dealing with dioxin consequences has partially accomplished in Da Nang city, Bien Hoa city (Dong Nai province) and Phu Cat district (Binh Dinh province). One of the significant accomplishments over the past years includes the project of the US Agency for International Development (USAID) on clearing up the dioxin contaminated soil at Da Nang airport, Zavaleta said. On the health issues, the JAC has completed the first programme providing services for the disabled people in Da Nang. Next year, a new programme, which costs about 9 million US dollars in three years, will help pilot public health measures to prevent diseases and disabilities in local population, Zavaleta added.—Xinhua

Palestinian leader hails Turkish support

Palestine

ANKARA, 22 Sept—Visiting Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas said on Friday that his people would never forget Turkey's support for the Palestinian cause.

Abbas made the remarks during a ceremony held in the Turkish capital of Ankara for Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan who was awarded an "Honorary Doctorate Degree in Humanities" by the Palestinian Al-Quds University.

Presenting the Turkish prime minister with an honorary doctorate was a meaningful occasion, Abbas said, adding that Erdogan was the symbol of Turkey's support to Palestinians.

He said that the Palestinian cause was an important and sacred issue just like the holy city of Jerusalem. "Tolerance, co-existence and respect to others are the messages that resonate in Jerusalem."

Abbas explained how Palestinians had protected

the city for years despite occupation and destruction. "Denying the facts does not eliminate the facts," he said.

"Whatever the Israeli government does, the Dome of the Rock still shines on the city and the churches also illuminate the city. The old city is still preserving its Islamic and Christian identity. As for the future of Jerusalem, forced settlements and pressure upon people will not work. Today, people, men, women, youngsters and the elderly who show patience will determine the future of the city," Abbas said.

For his part, Erdogan said that Turkey considered Jerusalem a city of tolerance, peace and brotherhood, and that his country wanted to see peace restored in Jerusalem.

Erdogan meanwhile slammed Israel's archeological excavations in Jerusalem as they threatened sacred sites, and criticized Israeli settlements which he said "besieged" Eastern Jerusalem.—Xinhua

REGIONAL

Flip flops with bullet casings to help Afghanistan

KABUL, 22 Sept— Flip flops with AK 47 bullet primers may seem an unusual fashion choice for US beachgoers, but one US special forces veteran hopes the factory he's set up in Kabul to make the footwear will help bring a better life to people in Afghanistan.

Ex-Special Forces serviceman Matthew Griffin says that the unlikely decision to launch the range of beach shoes was a "light bulb" moment inspired in 2010 by watching a factory worker punch holes into a leather strap used to make army boots.

Griffin was back in Afghanistan, on one of many trips to the nation he fell in love with while fighting there from 2003 to 2006, seeking for a way to help a people he remembered as unusually generous.

"I just remember how giving the people in Afghanistan were, we'd go up in the mountains and we'd stay in a village and they



An Afghan employee works at the Boot Factory in Kabul, on 8 Sept, 2012. —REUTERS

literally feed us until they were out of food," Griffin said.

"It was the first part of December and they had the rest of winter to live on the food that they had essentially fed us." With a view to promoting local employment, he and another US veteran, with backing from a Seattle-based business partner, set up a factory in Kabul to make flip flops.

Their line of "Combat Flip Flops," which run from \$65 to \$75 each, gives

customers the choice of a range of designs that will remind their owners of lands far from sunny US beaches and towns.

"Rather than another product to sell that looks good or feels good or is the new fashion, there's a product with a story to be told and people want to be part of that story," said Combat Flip Flops President Andrew Sewrey.

The designs include AK-47 rifle bullet casings,

Navy SEAL logos and even Afghan poppies, a plant grown widely in Afghanistan and used to make illegal drugs like heroin.

"(The AK-47) is the weapon of choice for the military and what not, so we put a AK-47 bullet primer around the strap," Sewrey added, standing beside an Afghan worker making prototypes of the footwear.

So far, their main customers are military families, but they hope the business will appeal to a wider audience and provide long-term employment for Afghans who have come to depend on opportunities linked to the more than decade-long war.

"We got into this and promised Afghans a better life," Griffin said.

"We've invested billions of tax dollars and lost some of the best American leaders we have to offer and it'd be a shame if it were nothing."

Reuters

Indian PM urges people to back economic reform

India

NEW DELHI, 22 Sept — Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Friday appealed to the Indian people to support economic reform, saying time has come to make hard decisions.

In a televised address to the nation, Singh said his government does not want to impose burden on common people with "some important economic policy decisions" made over the past one week, including opening up retail market to foreign investment and hiking diesel price.

"The time has come for hard decisions. For this I need your trust, your understanding and your cooperation," he said, vowing that more and tougher reform measures are to come.

"Please do not be misled by those who want to confuse you by spreading fear and false information. The same

tactics were adopted in 1991.

They did not succeed then. They will not succeed now," said the prime minister in reference to the liberalization measures adopted by the Congress party in 1991 which paved the way for the country's economic reform for the first time since Independence.

The Indian government has decided to open up retail sector, aviation and broadcasting market to foreign investment, soon after announcing diesel price rise and capping supply of government subsidized gas cylinders to households to reduce budget deficit.

The oppositions and Congress's ally, the Trinamool Congress, protested the measures with a nationwide strike on Thursday and the latter pulled out of the Congress-led ruling coalition.—Xinhua

Iranian commanders warn against military threats during "defence week"

Iran

TEHERAN, 22 Sept— Iranian commanders warned against military threats against the country as the armed forces staged military parades throughout the country on Friday to mark the start of the Week of Defence.

The Iranian armed forces commemorated the 1980-1988 war between Iraq and Iran by holding a parade in which Iran's most advanced military power and abilities were showcased. Iran's army, the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) and volunteer militia Basij forces participated in the parade.

Iran also displayed advanced missiles, including ballistic missiles of the *Shahab-3* and *Sejjil*, which are reported to have a range of 1,300 km to 2,000 km.

A senior Iranian military

commander said on Friday that Iran will deliver prompt and immediate response to any military attack on its territory, Press TV reported.

"We do not feel threatened by the ravings of the leaders of Israel," Joint Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces, Major General Hassan Firouzabadi, was quoted as saying.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of a ceremony marking the start of the Week of Defence, Firouzabadi said Iran's response to any threats will be prompt and unstoppable.

Also, commander of the Iranian army's ground forces, Brigadier General Ahmad Reza Pourdastan, said on Friday that Iran's army is fully prepared to respond to any possible threats against the country.

"If anybody seeks to implement a threat, he will receive a crushing response from armed forces of the Islamic republic," Pourdastan was quoted by Press TV as saying on the sidelines of the parade.

Those who have an illusion of threat and aggression against Iran should know that the country's armed forces enjoy high military preparedness and capability, he said, adding that the military parade on Friday conveyed the message of peace and friendship to Iran's friends and the message to enemies that the Islamic republic is ready to confront any possible threat.

Pourdastan said the capability of Iran's armed forces also carries the message that regional

countries have the potential to establish security and stability in the Middle East and have no need for foreign forces.

Commander of Iran's army, Major General Ataollah Salehi, also cautioned on Friday against Israel's stepped-up war rhetoric against Iran, saying that such threats will lead to Israel's "obliteration," Press TV reported.

"We warn the Zionist regime (of Israel) that... if they seek to implement their threats, these threats will only lead to their sooner destruction," Salehi told reporters on the sidelines of the parade.

He added that the Israeli threats against Iran are an indication of its "incapacity and disability."

Xinhua

India testfires Agni-III missile

NEW DELHI, 22 Sept— India on Friday testfired its nuclear-capable Agni-III ballistic missile from a base in the eastern state of Odisha, reported *Indo-Asian News Service*.

The surface-to-surface missile, with a range of over 3,000 km, was fired from a launching complex of the Inner Wheeler Island near Dhamra in Bhadrak district of the state.

The test, conducted by strategic forces command of the Indian Army, was described as successful, said the report. The latest test came two days after India test fired its second 4,000-km range Agni-IV missile from the same base.

Agni-III is capable of carrying warheads weighing up to 1.5 tons. It is 16 metres tall and weighs 48 tons.

Xinhua

Cambodian PM: Poverty reduction target may hit 2 years earlier

Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 22 Sept— Cambodia is expected to achieve the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) in poverty reduction two years earlier than the UN-imposed target, Prime Minister Hun Sen said on Friday.

According to the UN MDG, Cambodia is set the target to reduce poverty rate to 19.4 percent by 2015, meaning that the country needs to lift out at least 1 million out of 4 million people out of extreme poverty.

"The poverty rate in Cambodia has declined from 22.9 percent in 2009 to 20 percent in 2012 and could further drop to 19 percent in 2013," Hun Sen said on

Friday in a message to mark the 10th Anniversary of the International Day of Peace.

The premier's prediction was made after the country's economy grew up to 7.1 percent last year in spite of flood devastation.

He foresaw that the country's per capita GDP will reach 990 US dollars in 2012 and 1,080 US dollars in 2013 from 911 US dollars last year.

The Southeast Asian nation has the population of about 14.5 millions.

Its economy relies on garment export, tourism, agriculture and construction.

People living below poverty line are defined by an income of less than 1.25 US dollars a day.—Xinhua

Two Iraqi soldiers, two others killed in attacks in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 22 Sept—Two Iraqi soldiers and two other people were killed in separate attacks in and near the restive capital city of Baghdad on Friday, said the police.

A police officer, on condition of anonymity, told *Xinhua* that two soldiers were killed and two others wounded when a road side bomb hit their patrol in Mushahda area, some 20 km north of Baghdad.

Unidentified gunmen assassinated a Sunni cleric in the Washash district in the western part of Baghdad with weapons with silencers, said the source, adding that the attackers fled the scene after the killing. The official said unidentified gunmen, on the same day, stormed the house of a retired officer of the Iraqi army in Baghdad's southern district of Dora and shot him dead.—Xinhua



Iranian soldiers march during an annual military parade in Teheran, capital of Iran, on 21 Sept, 2012. The Iranian armed forces staged military parades throughout the country on Friday to mark the start of the Week of Defence, commemorating Iranian sacrifices during the eight-year Iraq-Iran war in the 1980s. —XINHUA

BUSINESS & ADVERTISEMENT

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (657)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (657) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.9.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BIENDONG TRADER VOY NO (1238)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BIENDONG TRADER VOY NO (1238) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.9.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING
(MALAYSIA) AGENCY SDN BHD

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Russia hopes USAID closure not to affect ties with US **Russia**

Moscow, 22 Sept — Russia said on Friday it hoped the shutdown of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in the country would not undermine bilateral relations with the United States.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov, who attended the 19-20 Sept Russia-US Pacific Partnership annual meeting in Washington, expressed the hope that the decision would "not affect the prospects of the equal and mutually respectful cooperation of the two countries in economic and other spheres," according to a statement posed on the website of the Russian Foreign Ministry.

Russia confirmed on Wednesday its decision to

shut down USAID starting 1 Oct, accusing the agency of trying to influence its domestic politics. The US State Department has said it would follow the Moscow decision, saying the decision was "regrettable."

During a regular briefing on Tuesday, State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland told reporters that the USAID, America's primary official foreign aid agency, has spent about 2.7 billion US dollars in total in Russia since the end of Soviet Union and the agency's budget for Russia in fiscal year 2012 is about 50 million dollars.

USAID opened its office in Moscow in 1992, with 60 Russians and 13 US citizens working for it currently.

Xinhua

UK urged to beef up power to ban rogue bankers **UK**

LONDON, 22 Sept — Britain needs more power to ban rogue bankers and should set up a new body to oversee a stringent code of standards, banks and regulators said in proposals to repair the industry's battered reputation.

Britain's financial regulator asked for more powers to root out abuse, including the power to ban temporarily anyone in an influential position, to help restore public trust in the sector. "This power would be a significant tool which would allow the regulators to act swiftly to counter any threat to their objectives by an approved person remaining

in position pending an appeal," the Financial Services Authority said on Friday.

Barclays, at the heart of recent criticism for lax standards after an interest-rate-rigging scandal, said Britain should set up a new register with the power to ban bankers if they fell short of standards.

A Chartered Institute of Bankers would promote improved standards and oversee a register for staff, who could be struck off, Barclays said in its submission to the Parliamentary Commission on Banking Standards.

Virgin Money, which last year bought former



A man is seen behind the entrance door of the offices of the Financial Services Authority (FSA) in Canary Wharf, London, on 19 November, 2010.—REUTERS

nationalised lender Northern Rock, said there was "a strong case" to force a full split of retail and investment banking businesses. The submissions were released at the start of a three-month inquiry by MPs

into banking standards following a string of scandals, including Libor rigging at Barclays and the mis-selling of millions of insurance policies across the country. —Reuters

Texas cheerleaders win court battle over

US high school 'Bible banners'

SAN ANTONIO, 22 Sept. — Cheerleaders at a Texas high school have won a court order allowing them to continue featuring Biblical quotes on the large paper banners that they hold up for football players to tear through when they take the field at the game opening.

The ruling by a Hardin County judge late Thursday

over the so-called "Bible Banners" at the school in the east Texas town of Kountze marked the latest twist in a broader national clash over the separation of religion from public schools.

The banners typically use Biblical passages for messages such as "thanks be to God which gives us victory through our Lord

Jesus Christ," and are a tradition in Kountze, which has about 2,100 residents northeast of Houston. The dispute began when a group that seeks to enforce separation of church and state sent a letter to the school superintendent that contended the banners represented an illegal endorsement of religion by a public entity.

The Wisconsin-based Freedom From Religion Foundation said it was acting on the complaint of a concerned Kountze resident.

"It is illegal for a public school to organize, sponsor, or lead religious messages at school athletic events," said Stephanie Schmitt, a foundation staff attorney.

Superintendent Kevin Weldon, a former high school football coach, said he contacted the school's lawyers after he received the letter and ordered the practice with the banners canceled.

Xinhua

Russia bans liquor imports from Czech

Moscow, 22 Sept — Russia banned imports of hard alcohol from the Czech Republic following lethal poisoning cases in that country, Gennady Onishchenko, Russia's Directorate for Consumer Rights and Health Protection, said on Friday. "The Federal Customs Services are given an order not to let these products (into the country) until the situation is fully stabilized," Onishchenko told reporters.

Twenty-two people died in Czech, six in Slovakia, and four in Poland this month, due to methanol poisoning after drinking Czech-made liquors, according to Onishchenko. Czech has suspended distribution of spirits containing over 20 percent of alcohol to the European Union (EU) on Thursday. Countries like Poland and Slovakia have banned sales of alcoholic drinks imported from Czech since last Sunday.—Xinhua

New York's Suffolk County looks to expand sewer system

NEW YORK, 22 Sept — New York's Suffolk County will look at ways to expand its sewer system to boost development, including a possible sale or some kind of deal with the county's water authority.

County Executive Steve Bellone, a Democrat, included this initiative in the \$2.77 billion budget plan he presented on Friday for the fiscal year that starts on January 1.

Suffolk's more than 20 sewer districts could be taken over by the Suffolk County Water Authority. Bellone said the county was looking into a "collaborative relationship" with the authority for the sewer district operations in order to spur development.

"I will be working closely with the Legislature on this

issue - any proposal, sale, or memorandum of understanding related to a change in sewer operations will have a full public vetting and will require Legislative authorization," he said.

Suffolk, located on the eastern half of Long Island, is home to the Hamptons summer beach resorts that draw millionaires from around the globe. Preservationists have argued against expanding the sewer system, saying this will lead to over-development.

While the county's household median income of \$84,506 easily surpasses the national average of \$50,046, Suffolk's reliance on one-shot transactions and volatile sales tax revenue led to a string of unbalanced budgets.

Reuters

British gov't borrowing hits new high in August

LONDON, 22 Sept — British public sector's net borrowing reached 14.41 billion pounds (23.4 billion US dollars) in August, compared with 14.36 billion pounds in the same month last year, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) said in a statement on Friday.

The figure, excluding financial sector interventions such as the government's preferred measure, was the highest for any August since records began in January 1993. "The public sector current budget deficit amounted to 13.2 billion pounds last month, higher than the 12.8 billion pounds in August of last year," said the ONS.

ONS data showed that public sector net debt was 1.03 trillion pounds at the end of August, equivalent to 66.1 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP). However, widened budget deficits have raised concern that the government could miss its deficit target for the year. Britain's independent Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) has set the government's borrowing target for the 2012/2013 financial year, which began in April, at 120 billion pounds. Economists said that target now looked unattainable.—Xinhua



In September 2012, Russia officially stated there are massive diamond reserves under the Popigai crater in Siberia containing "trillions of carats" (hundreds of thousands of tons) and claimed there are enough diamonds in the field to supply global requirements for 3,000 years.—XINHUA

ENTERTAINMENT

Amanda Bynes charged with driving on suspended license

LOS ANGELES, 22 Sept—Former child star Amanda Bynes was charged with two misdemeanor counts of driving on a suspended license on Friday, after the actress was stopped and cited by police last week in Burbank city, police officials said.

According to documents obtained by celebrity website TMZ.com, Bynes was cited twice by the same airport authority police official on 16 September—the second incident an hour and a half after the first—for driving on a suspended license near Burbank's Bob Hope Airport.

Bynes' black BMW was impounded and she is scheduled to appear at Burbank Superior Court by 16 October to address the charges, according to senior assistant city attorney Denny Wei at Burbank City Attorney's office.

Bynes, 26, who had her own TV comedy sketch show on Nickelodeon at the age of 13, is also set to appear in court next week to address

Actress Amanda Bynes arrives at the 2011 MTV Movie Awards in Los Angeles on 5 June, 2011.
REUTERS



two misdemeanor hit-and-run charges, stemming from two separate incidents in April and August.

She was also charged earlier this year with driving under the influence when she hit a police car in April and will attend a pretrial hearing on 29 October.

The actress has been involved in a string of minor car accidents and violations in and around Los Angeles in the last six months, and incidents of bizarre behavior.

Paparazzi who have been trailing her every move for weeks reported that she

locked herself in the dressing room of a Hollywood clothing store for two hours last week, according to TMZ.com.

Bynes, whose last film was "Easy A" in 2010, has strenuously denied drinking and driving. "I am doing amazing," Bynes told *People* magazine earlier this week, adding "I don't drink and drive. It is all false."

She also told *People* that she had retired from acting and was moving to New York to launch a fashion line. Bynes' representatives did not return calls for comment on Friday.—Reuters

Led Zeppelin guitarist Jimmy Page poses for photographers before a news conference to promote the band's album of live performances entitled "Mothership" in Tokyo on 28 Jan, 2008.

REUTERS

Led Zeppelin dodges reunion issue at film promotion

LONDON, 22 Sept—The surviving members of British rock band Led Zeppelin on Friday sidestepped the question of whether they would perform together again, and the closest their legions of fans may get is a film of their last concert in 2007.

The group that brought the world tracks like "Whole Lotta Love", "Kashmir" and "Stairway to Heaven" reunited five years ago at London's O2 Arena for a tribute gig to Ahmet Ertegun, the founder of Atlantic Records which signed Led Zeppelin in 1968.

It was one of the few times the band performed together since breaking up following the death of drummer John Bonham in 1980, and sparked frenzied speculation that a lucrative

Pop art pioneer Lichtenstein in Tate Modern retrospective

LONDON, 22 Sept—The first major retrospective show of American pop artist Roy Lichtenstein's work is to go on show for the first time in 20 years at a gallery in London next year.

The Tate Modern is to host the most comprehensive collection of the artist's work aiming to demonstrate the importance of Lichtenstein's influence, his engagement with art history and his enduring legacy as an artist.

Famed for his use of Ben-Day dots, bold lines and anguished heroines portrayed in his earlier works, Lichtenstein, whose first exhibition in 1968 was panned by art critics, pioneered a new style of painting inspired by industrial print processes but executed by hand.

Curator Sheena Wagstaff, who spent four years working on the exhibition, said she looked at 5,000 pieces of Lichtenstein's work before whittling it down to the key 125 pieces that will go on show.

"He is a quintessential pop artist but there's a whole lot of other work that you don't

know about that is just as important," Wagstaff told reporters. The show will feature influential paintings such as "Drowning Girl" from the Museum of Modern Art in New York and "Look Mickey", on loan from the National Gallery of Art in Washington as well as the Tate's own "Wham!" piece.

"The highlights of the show, I think will be for many people, revisiting old friends like the romance and war series with these sort of great anguished heroines and this virile air force pilots," Wagstaff



Roy Lichtenstein's 1963 painting titled "Wham!".

REUTERS

told *Reuters*. There are 125 works from private and public collections from around the world, comprising paintings, sculptures and drawings.

There will be other highlights of the show that will

surprise visitors, Wagstaff added, such as a series of large nudes or the sublime Chinese landscapes Lichtenstein painted in the final years of his life. The exhibition which is a collaboration between the Art Institute in Chicago, where it is currently being shown before moving to The National Gallery of Art in Washington DC, and London's Tate Modern.

The show, entitled "Lichtenstein: A Retrospective", runs from 21 February to 27 May. "He is this creature of really absorbing ambiguity and it's been a

wonderful journey, for us curators to readdress the significance of Lichtenstein," Wagstaff added. "You recognize a Lichtenstein, whatever style he is emulating."—Reuters

HBO Chief Executive Bill Nelson to retire

NEW YORK, 22 Sept—Television network Home Box Office Inc, owned by Time Warner Inc (TWX N), said its Chief Executive Bill Nelson will retire at the end of the year and co-President Richard Plepler will succeed him.

Nelson, who joined HBO in 1984, has been the CEO since 2007.

Plepler, who joined HBO in 1992 as senior vice president of corporate communications, green-lit such popular shows as "True Blood" and "Game of Thrones" as co-president.—Reuters



The logo for HBO, Home Box Office, the American premium cable television network, owned by Time Warner, is pictured during the HBO presentation at the Cable portion of the Television Critics Association Summer press tour in Beverly Hills, California on 1 Aug, 2012.

REUTERS

Helen Mirren to play Queen Elizabeth again—on stage

LONDON, 22 Sept—Oscar-winning English actress Helen Mirren will play the role of Britain's Queen Elizabeth again—this time in a stage play from the screenplay writer of "The Queen," producers said on Friday. Dame Helen will star in Peter Morgan's "The Audience," opening in London in 2013. The play traces 60 years of weekly

stateswoman, producers said in a statement.

Stephen Daldry, the man behind the stage musical and movie "Billy Elliot," will direct.

Morgan was Oscar-nominated for his screenplay for 2006 movie "The Queen," which traced royal and political reaction to the sudden death in a car crash in 1997 of Princess Diana.

Mirren, 67, won an Oscar,

British actress Helen Mirren attends a news conference during the premiere of the film "The Door" in Budapest, on 7 March, 2012.
REUTERS



"audiences" or meetings at Buckingham Palace between the British monarch and her prime ministers.

Britain has had 12 prime ministers during Queen Elizabeth's 60-year reign, and the play imagines some of the pivotal private meetings that took place as the Queen, who ascended to the throne at age 25, matured from young womanhood to elder

a Golden Globe, a Screen Actors Guild award and a British BAFTA for her portrayal of the Queen. She also won a raft of awards from playing Queen Elizabeth I in the 2005 British television series "Elizabeth I."

"The Audience" will open in previews at London's Gielgud Theatre on 15 Feb, 2013, and is scheduled to run until June.—Reuters

SPORTS

Sahara Force India duo in top 10 in Singapore GP practice



SINGAPORE, 22 Sept—Sahara Force India's Paul di Resta and Nico Hulkenberg finished in the top 10 in both opening practice sessions for the Singapore Grand Prix, here on Friday.

Hulkenberg was seventh in the first free practice with a timing of 1:51.658 while Di Resta finished a place behind after clocking 1:51.943, two days ahead of Sunday's floodlit race.

The German pair of Resta and Hulkenberg were sixth and seventh fastest in the second run, with Mercedes' Nico Rosberg, Ferrari driver Felipe Massa and Lotus pilot Romain Grosjean rounding off the top 10.

Red Bull's Sebastian Vettel indicated his title defence isn't over yet as he scorched to the quickest times in both opening practice sessions. McLaren's Lewis Hamilton was second quickest in the first session followed by team-mate Jenson Button. Button was second fastest in the later session followed by the championship leader Fernando Alonso of Ferrari. The second session was held up

Grand Prix

The German pair of di Resta and Hulkenberg were sixth and seventh fastest in the second practice.

for several minutes after Bruno Senna scraped his Williams car along a barrier and left it static in a chicane, making the track impassable until a crane could lift it clear.

PTI



MADRID, 22 Sept—Barcelona's comeback victory over Spartak Moscow in their Champions League opener on Wednesday proved Tito Vilanova was

Vilanova not too unhappy with Barca's laboured win Soccer

settling into the Nou Camp hot seat but not before revealing some worrying problems in defence.

It needed the risky introduction of forwards Alexis Sanchez and David Villa, leaving only three at the back, and a late double from World Player of the Year Lionel Messi to finish off the Russian visitors, who had taken a 2-1 lead but Vilanova did not complain.

"I'm not unhappy," Vilanova told a news conference. "We have attacked as we had to do. We have changed the way we played, we took risks and we won. I would have preferred to have won easily, but this game will serve us all well."

Pep Guardiola's former assistant has a tough act replacing a club idol who led the side to four consecutive Champions League semi-finals, and two European Cup triumphs on the way to a 14-trophy haul.

Vilanova was flirting with Barca's first home defeat in 17 European outings, before turning the game round to make it six wins from seven since taking the helm for this season.

Racist tweets were sent to Mikel after the Nigeria international's mistake in Wednesday's Champions League opener against Juventus led to Chelsea conceding an equalizer.



Soccer

Chelsea call for racial abuse investigation

LONDON, 22 Sept—Chelsea have asked police to investigate racist abuse directed at midfielder John Obi Mikel, while black Tottenham players were apparently taunted during a Europa League match.

Racist tweets were sent to Mikel after the Nigeria international's mistake in Wednesday's Champions League opener against Juventus led to Chelsea conceding an equalizer.

Chelsea say "we've informed the police and support taking the strongest possible action."

Mikel deleted his Twitter account Thursday.

On Thursday night, Lazio fans allegedly aimed monkey chants at Tottenham players Jermain Defoe, Aaron Lennon and Andros Townsend.

Tottenham manager Andre Villas-Boas didn't hear the abuse, and says "it's for the authorities (UEFA) to follow up in any kind of investigation."

On Wednesday, British lawmakers urged football authorities to do more to combat racism in football. —PTI

Globe-trotting McIlroy at home in FedExCup playoffs Golf

ATLANTA, 22 Sept—Soon to be without a house, Rory McIlroy again showed he feels completely at home in the PGA Tour's FedExCup playoffs as he stayed on track on Friday to secure the season-long title and the bonus of \$10 million.

The globe-trotting world number one, who is selling his \$3.2 million mansion in Northern Ireland because he hardly ever stays there, carded a two-under-par 68 in the Tour Championship second round to remain atop the FedExCup points standings. Though Jim Furyk moved one stroke clear of the elite 30-man field in the season-ending tournament after firing a superb 64, McIlroy would have to finish 12th or worse on Sunday to give the American a chance of clinching the playoff title. McIlroy will enter Saturday's third round at East Lake Golf Club trailing Furyk by four strokes and is oozing confidence after winning three times in his last four PGA Tour starts.

"I'm only four shots back, so I've still got a good chance going into the weekend," the mop-haired Northern Irishman told reporters after ending the second round at three-under 137. "I'm just going to go out and do the same thing," McIlroy said of his strategy for Saturday. "Try to play well, give myself plenty of opportunities, hit fairways and get on the greens. That's all I can think about." —Reuters

Four New York Giants among players fined for rough play

NEW YORK, 22 Sept—New York Giants safety Kenny Phillips and three team mates have been fined for their play in last week's win over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the National Football League said on Friday.

Phillips received the week's stiffest penalty when he was fined \$30,000 for striking a defenseless player in the head and neck area, the league said.

Running back Andre Brown drew a \$15,750 fine for tackling an opponent by pulling on the inside of his shoulder pads, also known as a horse-collar tackle, while linemen David Baas and Kevin Boothe received \$7,875 fines for unnecessary roughness.

Fines of \$21,000 went to Seattle Seahawks receiver Golden Tate for an illegal blindside block and Tampa Bay's Mason Foster for striking a defenseless player in the head and neck area.

Washington Redskins linebacker Lorenzo Alexander was fined \$15,750 for a horse-collar tackle and team mate Josh Morgan was hit with a

Tennis

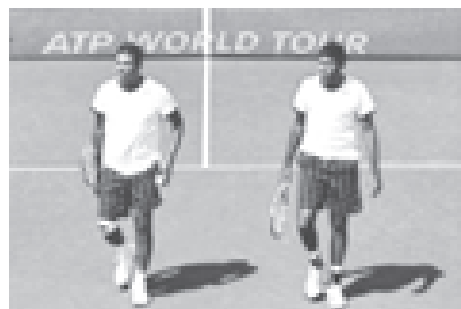
Karnataka High Court stays Bhupathi-Bopanna ban

NEW DELHI, 22 Sept—The Karnataka High Court on Saturday has stayed the two year ban imposed by All India Tennis Association (AITA) on Mahesh Bhupathi and his doubles partner Rohan Bopanna.

Meanwhile, AITA in its response to the legal notice sent has said that it is not against the players and that its legal team will soon respond to the notice.

Earlier, AITA had imposed the ban on both the tennis players for not agreeing to terms of the tennis association on Olympics team selection.

However, last week a disturbed Bhupathi had called a press conference and lashed out at the AITA and termed the tennis body as "detrimental for the Indian tennis".



But Bhupathi had hinted of taking a possible legal action against AITA challenging the ban. "It seems that I have no choice left but to accept this ban and since all of you today are willing to hear what I have to say." —PTI

Barca top La Liga with a perfect 12 points from four games, eight ahead of stuttering champions Real Madrid, and the only blemish on Vilanova's record is the Spanish Super Cup defeat at the Bernabeu last month.

The worries come for Vilanova in defence, where Spain defender Gerard Pique was forced off after damaging his left foot early on in Wednesday's game, putting him on the injury list for up to three weeks.

Pique joins fellow centre-back Carles Puyol and playmaker Andres Iniesta in the treatment room.

Vilanova turned to recent signing from Arsenal, midfielder Alex Song, for his first game in the centre of defence, along side another converted midfielder Javier Mascherano, and the duo struggled. "I had thought about using (youth team player Marc) Bartra who hasn't played much up until now," Vilanova said. "And I had Song who has a lot of experience, and someone we have bought in to fulfill this role." It was a tough baptism by fire for Cameroon international Song at the back, but he may have to adapt quickly, especially with a 'clasico' against Real Madrid at the Nou Camp looming in two weeks' time.

A bright spot for Vilanova from the Spartak game, however, was the performance of academy winger Cristian Tello. The pacy 21-year-old scored Barca's opener from distance and set up Messi's second with a run off the left flank and a pull-back in the area. "He is having a great season," Vilanova said of a player keeping Spain striker Villa on the bench. "We already knew what he was capable of, and he knows what he is doing." —PTI

National Football League (NFL)

\$7,875 fine for unsportsmanlike conduct.

St. Louis Rams cornerback Janoris Jenkins also was fined \$15,750 for unnecessary roughness.

In the American Football Conference, fines of \$21,000 went to Pittsburgh linebacker Lawrence Timmons for helmet-to-helmet contact, New England's Jerod Mayo for hitting a defenseless player and Buffalo's Da'Norris Searcy for a hit to the head and neck. —Reuters



New York Giants strong safety Kenny Phillips (21) knocks down Tampa Bay Buccaneers wide receiver Vincent Jackson (83) as he breaks up a pass attempt in the third quarter of their NFL football game in East Rutherford, New Jersey. —REUTERS

GENERAL

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(23-9-12 09:30 am ~ 24-9-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * CB bank Introduce New Monetary MPU
- * News
- * Historical Sambuddhe Pagoda
- * The Most Amazing Exhibition & Car Show 1/2012
- * News
- * Easily Cooked Tasty Dishes "Steamed Crab's Thumb"
- * News
- * Shall We Beautify Fruits?
- * News
- * MI People's Celebrities

"Wut Hmone Shwe Yi"

- * Launching Ceremony of "The Chilies Journal"
- * News
- * Thiri Zeya Buhmi Bagan golden Palace and Museum of King Anawrahta
- * Training Seminar of action plan for presentation of Underage Recruitment in Military by Yangon Command
- * News
- * Technique of Making Bamboo Sheet
- * Water Lily Art Gallery
- * News
- * Myanmar Job Fair 2012
- * Myanmar Movie "Uprightness"

MYANMAR TV

(23-9-2012) (Sunday)

7:00 am
1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

7:25 am
2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:50 am
3. Nice & Sweet Song

7:55 am
4. Health Programme

8:10 am
5. Selected Songs For 19th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions (2012) (Classical Song) (Amateur (Second) Division) (Level Men & Women)

8:25 am
6. Islands of Dhamma

8:40 am
7. Myitta Pawana By Mingun Sayadaw Phayagyi

12:20 pm
8. How It's Works

12:50 pm
9. Teleplay

4:05 pm
10. Dances Of National Races

4:50 pm
11. Song For Upholding National Spirit

4:55 pm
12. Documentary

5:05 pm
13. Sing & Enjoy

6:40 pm
14. Tamyethnar Takwetsar

8:00 pm
15. News

16. Cartoon Series

17. TV Drama Series

18. New Melody

DISTRICT NEWS



Commander of Township Police Force Police Captain Kyaw Zin Win of Mayangon Township gives talks on danger of narcotic drugs to students at Basic Education High School No 4 in Mayangon of Yangon West District on 17 September.

MYANMA ALIN

15 people killed in sectarian violence in N Yemen

SANAA, 22 Sept—At least 15 people were killed in the two-day sectarian violence in Yemen between Shiite and Sunni groups battling for dominating northern regions, tribal dignitaries said on Saturday.

"The clashes erupted on Friday in the city of Rada in Amran governorate, after the Shiite fundamentalists stormed a Sunni- control mosque to attempt to dominate it, killing three Sunni followers and injuring other dozens," tribal dignitary Yahya Taher told *Xinhua* by phone.

Further 12 people, most of whom are Sunni extremists belonging to the leading opposition Sunni Islamic Islah Party, were killed on Saturday, when the clashes were renewed following the collapse of tribal mediation attempts, said Taher.

Amran province, about 50 km north of the capital Sanaa, has witnessed a deadly sectarian fighting between the rival groups over the few past months, leaving hundreds of people dead.

The Shiite group, also known as Houthis rebel, who controls most parts of Saada, signed a ceasefire deal with the Yemeni government in August 2010, putting an end to an on-and-off war since 2004.

However, the Shiites have involved in sectarian clashes with local Sunni tribesmen, which rocked the northern regions and forced thousands of local residents to flee the conflict to remote areas.

The tension has escalated after the central government's control is weakened by one-year protests against former President Ali Abdullah Saleh, as the well-armed Shiite group has been trying to take advantage of the security vacuum to expand their control over the country's northern regions.

Yemeni President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi, who took office in February in a political settlement brokered by neighboring oil-rich Saudi Arabia and backed by the United Nations, has promised to launch a national dialogue to settle disputes between all political factions.—*Xinhua*



EPL Results on 22 Sept, 2012 (Saturday)

Swansea C.	0 - 3	Everton
Chelsea	1 - 0	Stoke C.
Southampton	4 - 1	Aston Villa
WBA	1 - 0	Reading
West Ham U.	1 - 1	Sunderland
Wigan Athletic	1 - 2	Fulham

FIFA defends World Cup mascot names

RIO DE JANEIRO, 22 Sept— World football's governing body FIFA released a statement Friday defending its selection process for naming the 2014 World Cup mascot.

Brazilian fans have been critical of FIFA's decision to force the public to choose between three names selected by an independent panel.

The names - Amijubi, Fuleco and Zuzeco - have this week been put to a public vote in Brazil's media.

"When the original plan was drafted we thought about having an open system in which the public could suggest names," the FIFA statement said.

"However it was impossible to put this process into practice due to the complexity of legislation



regarding intellectual property."

FIFA earlier said the names had been coined by a panel of experts who used

fusions of Portuguese words meaning joy, ecology, football and blue.

An online petition calling for a more democratic

approach to the naming of the mascot - a rare Brazilian species of armadillo - received 30,000 signatures by Saturday morning.—*Xinhua*

Spanish and the Portuguese players at the club.

"There is no conflict here," he insisted. "Everyone reacts how they react, but there is nothing more to it than that. The main thing is to score goals and win to keep everyone satisfied," continued Mourinho. Should FC Barcelona defeat Granada on Saturday, Madrid would go into Saturday's match 11 points behind their main rivals for the title, but once again, the Madrid coach said he was not worried at kicking off with such a disadvantage, he was more worried, he said, about Rayo.

"Last year it was very hard for us to win there. We will not have an easy game and we know that. Every time I read something about Rayo, I read about how motivated they are. They are not looking for a draw," warned Mourinho.—*Xinhua*



because he had not played and his talent has not been used," he continued, before refusing to say whether or not Ramos would play in Vallecas.

The Madrid coach also denied rumors of bad relations between the

Mourinho refuses to discuss Ramos at pre-game press conference

MADRID, 22 Sept—Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho defended his decision to leave central defender Sergio Ramos out of the side that defeated Manchester City on Tuesday night and hinted that he was prepared to do the same when his side visit Rayo Vallecano on Sunday.

Ramos was left out on Tuesday and replaced by Rafael Varene after Mourinho had criticized his side for last weekend's defeat to Sevilla and many saw the move as a punishment for the defender, who is one of the strongest voices in the dressing room.

The move has also been seen as defending the

Portuguese players in the Madrid squad, such as Cristiano Ronaldo and Pepe against the Spanish block, which also includes Xabi Alonso and Iker Casillas, but when asked about the decision, Mourinho was bullish in his reply.

"Doesn't Varene have the right to play?" he asked when questioned about Ramos. "Pepe and Varene, who played in the last game, did very well, they played it easy and simple and did well in the air. We conceded two goals, but neither was fault of the central defenders."

"Why did nobody talk about Varene being sad

President U Thein Sein visits ancient Terracotta Museum in Xian

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Sept—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein accompanied by delegation members left here by special flight of Myanmar Airways International on 18 September to attend the 9th China-ASEAN Expo and the China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit in Nanning of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of China and arrived in Kunming at 10.10 am.

The President and party were welcomed at Kunming Airport by Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua, Vice-Governor of Yunnan Province Mr Gao Shuxum, Director-General Madame Zhou Hong of Foreign Affairs Office of Yunnan Province, Myanmar Consul-General U Zaw Phyio Win of Kunming and officials.

The President received Secretary of Yunnan



President U Thein Sein at Terracotta Museum.—MNA

Province Communist Party Mr Qin Guang Rong, Governor of Yunnan Province Mr Li Ji Heng and officials at the lounge of Kunming Airport.

At the call, they cordially discussed further bilateral

cooperation in economy and culture between Myanmar and Yunnan Province, cooperation in peace and stability at border regions of two countries, joint eradication of narcotic drugs, gambling and human



trafficking at border regions for development of trade between the two countries, investment of companies from Yunnan Province in Myanmar, and study and discussion on investment prospects of Myanmar.

In the afternoon, the President and party left Kunming and arrived at the airport in Xian at 2 pm. The President was welcomed by Vice-Governor of Shanxi Province Mr Zheng Xiaoming, Director-General Mr Zhang

Baowen of Province Foreign Affairs Office, Myanmar Ambassador to China U Tin Oo, Military Attaché Col Aung Chein and officials of China-Myanmar Friendship Association.

(See page 8)

President U Thein Sein invites investment of Yantian, Huawei



President U Thein Sein observes Shenzhen Museum.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Sept—President U Thein Sein and party visited Yantian International Container Terminal, the well-known port of Shenzhen, China on 20 September morning.

Yantian CEO Mr Patrick Lam explained the conditions before and after the establishment of the terminal. The Myanmar President, in his speech, said it is an opportune time to make investment in Myanmar, adding that investment in container terminal in Myanmar would be beneficial to both sides. Currently, Kyaukpyu Deep Sea Port, Thilawa Port and Dawei Deep Sea Port are under construction. The President invited the CEO to make investment in Myanmar, appraising experiences and financial asset of the company.

Shenzhen Port, which is crucial in modernization of

Shenzhen, was built in October, 1993 and came into operation in July, 1994. Built as joint-venture with Hong Kong, it is the fourth biggest port of the world. It can serve as a mooring place for five ocean-going vessels at the same time and offer cargo handling service for 40,000 containers.

The President and entourage then visited Shenzhen Historical Museum where they observed records on urbanization of 32-year-lod Shenzhen from a small ordinary port town to modern, developed city by Chinese leaders, documentary photos on urban construction, sculptures, and records on urbanization process of the city.

Shenzhen is located in the northern coastal region of mainland China at the opposite of Hong Kong. The coastal area stretches out as far as 230 kilometers with a large number

of deep sea ports. The population of the city is over 14 million with 11 million permanent residents and 3 million migrants from other regions. It was established as Shenzhen City in 1979 to host the first special economic zone of China in August, 1980. It ranks fourth in the provinces/regions with highest economic growth in entire China, being a leading city in advanced technology industries, monetary services, foreign trade and sea transportation. It is also a model city in China's reformation and implementation of open door policy. Of 176 pontoon bridges in ports in Shenzhen, 69 can cope with over-10000-ton vessels and the remaining 44 cargo ships.

Shenzhen International Airport is the fourth busiest airport in China, operating 130 flights. Moreover, Shenzhen ranks six in cities with quality research works in China.

Shenzhen Governor Mr Xu Qin paid a call on Myanmar President at Futian Shangri-La Hotel in the noon.

Their discussions covered a wide range of topics including investment of Shenzhen businessmen in Myanmar, establishment of factories and workshops in Myanmar which is surrounded by vast markets like India, Bangladesh and ASEAN at a time it is inviting foreign investment, sharing of urbanization experiences with Myanmar for its development and assistance to Myanmar for rapid development of industrial zones.

The Shenzhen governor hosted lunch to the Myanmar President and party.

(See page 9)

Inlay Lake conservation under way

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Sept—Inlay Lake conservation and resettlement project (2012) of Nyaungshwe Township in Shan State (South) was jointly sponsored by Norway and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in collaboration with Inn Literature Cultural and Regional Development Association.

From 17 to 21 September, Myanmar Agricultural Ahman Association took part in the project by applying multi pesticide prevention technology, by utilizing EM Bokashi natural fertilizer, IO organic technology with the use of kitchen waste for ensuring environmental conservation and by presenting necessary equipment for construction of fly-proof latrines, as well as by sharing educative knowledge in Myaynigon Village.

MNA